

EVANS' Assured Funding bill. We should take veterans' health care funding out of annual budget fights as a top priority for our nation.

This weekend, as I return to South Dakota, it will be my honor to take part in a homecoming ceremony for the 147th Artillery unit from the northeast part of the state. As I meet these brave men and women, I will thank them for their service and exchange handshakes and hugs with them and their family members. Every member of Congress should be able to tell the troops when they return, with certainty, that our government will live up to its obligations in recognition of their service to the country. It is the right thing to do. And we will continue to fight for those who have served.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. NEUGEBAUER (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for February 8 on account of travel delays.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

The following Members (at the request of Ms. WOOLSEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SANDERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. HERSETH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUELLAR, for 5 minutes, today.

The following Members (at the request of Mr. GINGREY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. HYDE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BOEHNER, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 38 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until to-

morrow, Thursday, February 10, 2005, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

664. A letter from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Reporting Levels and Recordkeeping (RIN: 3038-AC08) received January 24, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

665. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, APHIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Asian Longhorned Beetle; Addition to Quarantined Areas [Docket No. 04-130-1] received January 31, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

666. A letter from the Administrator, Rural Housing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Surety Requirements (RIN: 0575-AC60) received January 7, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

667. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Importation of Clementines, Mandarins, and Tangerines From Chile [Docket No. 02-081-3] (RIN: 0579-AB77) received December 15, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

668. A letter from the Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense, transmitting approval of Colonel Michael J. Lally III, whose name appears on an enclosed list, to wear the insignia of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

669. A letter from the General Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Changes in Flood Elevation Determination [Docket No. FEMA-D-7565] received January 24, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

670. A letter from the General Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket No. FEMA-7859] received January 24, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

671. A letter from the General Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—Final Flood Elevation Determinations—received January 24, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

672. A letter from the General Counsel/FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule—List of Communities Eligible for the Sale of Flood Insurance [Docket No. FEMA-7774] received January 24, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

673. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Innovation and Improvement, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule—Scientifically Based Evaluation Methods (RIN: 1890-ZA00) received February 4, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

674. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Gastroenterology-Urology Devices; Classification for External Penile Rigidity Devices [Docket No. 1998N-1111] received January 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

675. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medical Devices; Obstetrical and Gynecological Devices; Classification of the Assisted Reproduction Laser System [Docket No. 2004N-0530] received January 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

676. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Cardiovascular and Neurological Devices; Reclassification of Two Embolization Devices [Docket No. 2003N-0567] received January 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

677. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Biological Products; Bacterial Vaccines and Toxoids; Implementation of Efficacy Review; Withdrawal [Docket No. 1980N-0208] received January 14, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

678. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Emergency Planning and Preparedness For Production And Utilization Facilities (RIN: 3150-AH00) received January 25, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

679. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting copies of international agreements, other than treaties, entered into by the United States, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112(b); to the Committee on International Relations.

680. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to the Taiwan Relations Act, agreements concluded between January 1 and December 31, 2004, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3301, et. seq; to the Committee on International Relations.

681. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule—Schedule of Fees for Consular Services, Department of State and Overseas Embassies and Consulates (RIN: 1400-AB94; 1400-AB95) received January 31, 2005, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

682. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a copy of Presidential Determination No. 2005-13 pursuant to Section 1306 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2003, pursuant to Public Law 107-314, section 1306; to the Committee on International Relations.

683. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-746, "Lot 878 Square 456 Tax Exemption Clarification Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

684. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 15-747, "Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining Amendment Act of 2004," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-